

August 2006

**PORT COMMISSIONERS**

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**SQUALICUM MARINA**  
*Port of Bellingham*

**PORT OF BELLINGHAM**

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## MARINA NEWS

### BOAT FIRE

As many of you are aware we had a major boat fire on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. It's important for all to learn from events like this and Harbor staff would like to remind all of our boaters to keep these fire safety tips in mind at all times.

**Regular Inspections:**

- Pay attention to the bottom surfaces of your fuel tank which could potentially come in contact with bilge water. Rust, rubbing and abrasion can cause damage to your fuel tank causing a fuel leak.
- Make sure your fuel fill pipe is securely mounted, grounded and fill hoses are in good condition.
- Make sure fire extinguishers are Coast Guard Approved and you have an adequate number for your size of boat. It's also important for everyone onboard your vessel to know the location of these and how to operate them correctly.
- Store all flammable items safely and away from any ignition source. Do not store disposable propane tanks or lighter fluid on your vessel.
- Check your electrical system on a regular basis. Replace any worn wires and tighten loose connections. These could cause a short potentially causing a fire.
- Keep your bilge area clean of all rags, paper and other flammable materials.

**At the Fuel Dock:**

Fuel vapors are heavier than air. Therefore, it's important that while fueling, all hatches, doors and windows on your vessel are closed. This will help prevent any gasoline vapors from settling in your bilge and coming into contact with an ignition source.

- Keep the fuel nozzle in contact with your fill pipe at all times. Any static electricity created during the fueling process could cause a spark.
- When fueling is completed, open all doors and hatches to ventilate your vessel. Operate your bilge blower for at least five minutes before casting off.

**Before Starting Your Vessel:**

- Give your vessel's bilge a "sniff" test. Getting down on your hands and knees will ensure that your nose is picking up any lurking gasoline vapors.
- Operate the bilge blower at least five minutes before starting an inboard engine. If you still smell fumes DO NOT start your engine. Locate the source of the fuel and repair immediately.

For more general boating safety tips go to the United States Coast Guard Boating Safety web page at [www.uscgboating.org](http://www.uscgboating.org).

### SQUADRON BASIC BOATING COURSE OFFERED

Bellingham Sail and Power Squadron's eight-week Public Boating Course will start September 26 at Bellingham Technical College's Haskell Center. The \$65 fee entitles students to instruction, course manual and a chart plotter. Students will also need dividers and NOAA Chart 18421 (Strait of Juan de Fuca to Strait of Georgia).

Participants can earn college credit and may qualify for lower boat insurance rates. For more information contact Chris Lilly Backus at (360)715-1984 or [hepsabeth@msn.com](mailto:hepsabeth@msn.com). To register for the course, call the college at (360)752-8350 and ask for item #4560-2.

### 2006 PITCH REGATTA

The Bellingham Yacht Club is hosting their 33rd annual Pitch Regatta the weekend of September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Join in the fun for a weekend of great racing and events. Registration information is available at [www.byc.org](http://www.byc.org) or call at 360-733-7390.

**Watching the Regatta**

If you plan to watch the racing action from your boat here are some helpful tips that can make your spectator experience and the racers experience safe and enjoyable.

- Spectator boats should be at least 100 yards away from a racing yacht.
- Spectator boats should avoid placing themselves between the wind and the racing boat.
- Spectator boats are best placed well clear of the start and finish line, and in no case should be in front or behind the start/finish line.
- Spectator boats should place themselves well away of the upwind mark and well downwind of the downwind mark. These marks are exciting positions to watch a race from.
- Spectator boats should avoid cutting across boats that are racing.

If you are going to be out of the Harbor September 1<sup>st</sup> through September 4<sup>th</sup> and would like to loan your slip out to a visiting race participant contact BYC's Fleet Captain at [fleetcaptain@byc.org](mailto:fleetcaptain@byc.org). The Squalicum Harbor Office and BYC are working together in an attempt to find moorage for visiting racers so please contact BYC as early as possible.





## SAND IN THE CITY™

Imagine a competition to sculpt 240 tons of sand into some amazing creations and you're not even at the beach! Add master sand sculptors, a giant children's sandbox, great food, and arts and craft vendors and what do you get? The first annual Sand in the City™ at Squalicum Harbor—a free community event to benefit the Marine Life Center.

- **Cheer on your favorite teams:** Bellingham Cold Storage, Birch Equipment, Caitec, Comcast, Dawson Construction, Ryzex, VECO USA, Inc., Trans-Ocean Products, Whidbey Island Bank and Zervus Group who are supported by these great architectural firms: Curt Carpenter, Grinstad & Wagner, RMC and Stewart and King.
- **Vote for your favorite sand sculpture & People's Choice Award:** Purchase a "sand dollar" to support the Marine Life Center and vote for your favorite creation.
- **Watch master sand sculptors at work!**
- **Build your own sand castle in the giant sandbox!**
- **Enjoy great food!**

### Schedule of Events:

**Friday, September 29 - 10 am to 4 pm (free)**

Team Sand Sculpting Competition

Team Awards Ceremony at 4 pm

**Saturday, September 30 and Sunday, October 1 (\$5 suggested donation)**

Bellingham Beach Bash - 10 am to 6 pm (Saturday)

10 am - 4 pm Sunday

**Location:** Squalicum Harbor Boat Launch and Parking Lot - corner of Roeder Avenue and Bellwether Way. (Special note to boaters - the launch will remain open during the event; however, parking will be limited to the long-term lot across the street next to Redden Marine.)

For more information call (360) 676-2500 or visit [www.portofbellingsham.com](http://www.portofbellingsham.com).

## SEE YOU AT THE FAIR

The Port of Bellingham will have an information booth inside the Expo Building at this summer's Northwest Washington Fair, August 14 - 19 in Lynden. Be sure to stop by and say hello while you're there. Don't forget to enter a drawing with a chance to win two round trip tickets to Las Vegas on Allegiant Airlines.



**You can contact your Marina Advisory Representatives by calling either the Blaine or Squalicum Harbor offices.**

Donald Bower	Mark Gumley	Hamilton Hayes
Jeffrey Hegedus	John Hollstein	Ryan Kapp
Stan Larson	Paul LaVelle	Tim Mumford
Sandra Palm	Raleigh Province	Michael Reed
Jim Splaine	Roger Van Dyken	



The Port of Bellingham would like to thank everyone who visited and participated at the first annual BayFest on Saturday, July 8 at Zuanich Point Park. Over 25 maritime organizations, clubs and businesses were on display along with some great food vendors. Maggie's Fury, the Bellingham Youth Jazz Band, Sea Shanties with Jon Bartlett and Rika Ruebesaat, Clyde Ford reading from his latest novel "Precious Cargo" and The Atlantics provided music and entertainment during the event. Sunny skies and warm temperatures prevailed and a good time was had by all!

Stay tuned to future newsletters for information and the date for next summer's BayFest.



Fresh seafood sales are in full swing at Gate 7 at Squalicum Harbor. Look for fresh spot prawns and dungeness crab and salmon available later in the summer. For location and times contact the fishermen directly:

Captain Crab: 360-815-7435

Grumpy Dan's Seafood: 360-961-3668

Haling Seafood: 360-961-6883

Mad Jax's Seafood: 360-220-0976

## OPENING DAY OF BOATING

In the June 2006 newsletter, the Squalicum Harbor Office neglected to recognize the efforts and generosity of the **Bellingham Yacht Club** for hosting, once again, the annual Blessing of the Fleet Ceremony. Thanks to all for making Squalicum Harbor such a great place to be.

## MAC MEETING

The next MAC meeting will be on September 12 at 6 pm in the Harbor Center Conference Room, 1801 Roeder Avenue. Visitors are always welcome at the MAC meetings. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Harbor Office or any of your MAC members. They are your voice in the boating community.

### Squalicum Harbor Office

722 Coho Way (360) 676-2542

After Hours (360) 739-8131

### Office Hours

8am - 7pm

Dan Stahl, Director of Marine Services

Mike Endsley, Harbormaster

Dave Warter, Operations Coordinator

Andy Peterson, Moorage Coordinator

### Marine Service Representatives

Patty Paus

Greg Hoffman

Lynda Lamoureaux

Arnold Korbmacher

Paul Knippel